



March 2015

Dear Friend,

Spring is here. Public schools close for spring break the week of March 16. Many students use this time to come to our office to get their 1st driver's license. Our free "In the Driver's Seat" app is designed to help prepare for this exciting milestone. It has everything needed, including the Florida Driver Handbook, required forms and a practice test. You can also make a driver license appointment. Why not download it today? Search "In the Driver's Seat" at the Apple App Store or Google play.

News from Homeland Security

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) released a new deadline for REAL ID compliance. REAL ID documents include a state-issued driver license, state-issued ID card and a current passport. The new deadline for all individuals to have a REAL ID for official purposes is October 1, 2020. This new deadline eliminates all previous DHS compliance deadlines. Read more at <http://www.flhsmv.gov/realid/>.

To get a REAL ID driver license or ID card, federal law requires people present specific, original documents proving birth, social security and residence. REAL ID's have a star in the upper right hand corner. So far 68 percent of all eligible drivers in Palm Beach County have REAL IDs. For more information on how to get your REAL ID visit www.pbctax.com/real-id.

REAL ID enforcement dates are separate from the new compliance deadline. Enforcement is being handled in phases and has already begun. By October 1, 2020 DHS rules require individuals to have a REAL ID document to board commercial flights or enter federal buildings.

Lost Your Birth Certificate?

We have a new customer service for anyone born in Florida. If need your Florida birth certificate, we can now provide certified copies at designated service locations. Locations include our offices in Delray Beach, downtown West Palm Beach and Palm Beach Gardens. The fee for this service is \$21.25. You must have valid photo identification. If you were born in another state go to www.cdc.gov/nchs/w2w.htm and click on your birth state.

Property Tax Deadlines Approaching

If you still owe 2014 property taxes, be sure to pay this month. Payments received after March 31 are delinquent. Delinquent taxes are charged 3 percent interest and advertising fees. Why not pay online at www.pbctax.com? It's secure, easy and convenient. If you own more than one property, our system allows you to make multiple payments in one transaction. eChecks are free. Credit cards companies charge a convenience fee per transaction. Our office does not retain this fee.

Do you know we have an Installment Payment Plan for property taxes? The plan allows you to make quarterly payments and offers a discount of slightly less than 4 percent. To enroll for 2015 taxes just complete our short application. It is available at www.pbtax.com/installment-payment-plan or at our service locations. The deadline to enroll is April 30. If you are already on the plan, you do not need to complete a new application.

Community Outreach

We attend events throughout Palm Beach County. Our staff is available to answer questions and provide information about our services, including payment options, what documents are necessary to complete transactions and customer service tips, including how to save time and money.

Homeowner associations are a key partner in our outreach efforts. If your community or organization would like us to provide a speaker, publications or participate in an expo event, please email ClientAdvocate@taxcollectorpbc.com with specific details. We will do our best to accommodate your request.

I hope you will follow us on Twitter @TAXPBC. You can see pictures of our newest drivers, read important tax deadlines and stay up-to-date on the latest news about our services.

Sincerely,

Anne

Anne M. Gannon